

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 3-10 are now present in this application. Claim 1 is independent.

Claims 2 and 11-21 have been canceled, and claims 1, 3 and 10 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

Information Disclosure Citation

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references supplied with the Information Disclosure Statements filed April 4, 2006 and July 2, 2010, and for providing Applicant with initialed copies of the PTO-SB08 forms filed therewith.

Election of Species Requirement

The Examiner has made the Election of Species Requirement final, and has withdrawn claims 11-21 from further consideration. Applicant has canceled these non-elected claims.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because the push-in portion having a shape in conformity with the hole and the depressed portion including a holding portion are not shown.

Applicants respectfully submit that the push-in portion 72 is rectangular and is in conformity with the rectangular hole. In addition, both the depressed portion 84 and holding portion 83 are depicted in the drawing. Therefore, all structural features necessary for an understanding of the invention are shown in the drawings.

Title of the Invention

Applicant has amended the Title of the Invention in order to better reflect the subject matter claimed.

Specification Objection

The Examiner has objected to the specification because of several informalities. In order to overcome this objection, Applicant has amended the specification in order to correct the deficiencies pointed out by the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

The Examiner also objects to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedence for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner states that the specification does not describe the depressed portion including a holding portion. However, this feature is described on page 13, lines 9-10. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claim 1 because of an informality. In order to overcome this objection, Applicant has amended claim 1 in order to correct the deficiency pointed out by the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has set forth certain instances wherein the claim language lacks antecedent basis.

In order to overcome this rejection, Applicant has amended claim 10 to correct each of the deficiencies specifically pointed out by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim, as amended, particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by JP '693. Further, claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over JP '693 in view

of Chudkosky, claims 5 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over JP '693 in view of Goodwin and claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over JP '693 in view of Coffey. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of elements in a laundry device including a cabinet having a recess recessed toward an inner side of the cabinet compared to the other portion of cabinet, the recess having a hole therein, a power cord assembly having electric wires, and a holding member at one end of the electric wires with a groove at a circumferential surface for placing the cabinet therein, for passing through the hole, and securing to the cabinet, and a depressed portion at a portion of the cabinet where the groove is to be placed therein, for press fitting in the groove. The recess accommodates one side of the holding member therein to prevent the one side of the holding member from being exposed to the other portion of cabinet.

Applicant respectfully submits that this combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

The claim now includes the limitation of claim 2, and claim 2 has been canceled. The Examiner rejected claim 2 as being obvious over JP '693 in view of Chudkosky et al. The Examiner referred to the recess 79 of Chudkosky et al. and alleged that it would have been obvious to use the recess with the washing machine of JP '693 because the recess serves to maximize overall compactness and direct water away from the electrical inlet (referring to column 1, lines 57-61 of Chudkosky et al.)

Chudkosky et al. discloses a connector box 18 and a panel 10 forming the back of a cabinet 2. The power cord runs parallel to the panel. The connector box has an opening in wall 82 for accommodating a socket 22. As stated in column 3, lines 22-25, "Connector box 18 includes a base generally defined by a first section 77 and a second section 79. As clearly shown in these figures, connector box 18 increases in depth from first section 77 to second section 79 in order to provide ample space for the easy, preferably lateral insertion of power cord plug 25, while still maintaining a compact configuration." The second section accommodates the large plug 25.

Chudkosky et al.'s teaching of a recess to accommodate a plug for a cord that runs parallel to a rear of a cabinet and is laterally attached to a socket extending through a side 82 is not applicable to the configuration disclosed by JP '693 for several reasons. First, JP '693 discloses a cord extending through the panel. There is no large plug that would interfere with the compactness of the design. If such a plug were to be used, the power cord attachment member 21 of JP '693 would no longer be necessary. Second, the cord extends through the panel in a perpendicular manner. The cord of Chudkosky et al. lies against the connection box 18 and requires a wall 82 extending in a direction outwardly from the connection box 18 to provide a socket 68 for the "preferably lateral insertion of power cord plug 25." The different orientations of the cords prevent the teaching of Chudkosky et al. from being applied to JP '693.

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record for the reasons explained above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

With regard to dependent claims 3-10, Applicant submits that claims 3-10 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1 which is allowable for the reasons set forth above, and therefore claims 3-10 are allowable based on their dependence from claim 1. Reconsideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

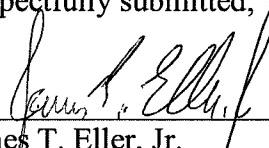
In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Christopher J. McDonald, Registration No. 41,533, at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
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